

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SPC-03 STR-08

TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 JUSE-00 FTC-01 SS-20

FEA-02 INT-08 NSC-10 L-03 H-03 DRC-01 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 /161 W

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R 151624Z JAN 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6252

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 0244

PASS COMMERCE AND JUSTICE ANTI-TRUST DIVISION

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EIND, ENRG, EEC

SUBJ: EC COMMISSION COMPETITION POLICY

REF: EC A-304, AUGUST 6, 1973

1. ON JANUARY 8, THE MISSION DISCUSSED CURRENT ACTIVITIES OF THE EC COMMISSION'S DIRECORATE GENERAL FOR COMPETITION WITH PETER DUESBERG, ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR GENERAL WILLY SCHLIEDER. DUESBERG SAID THAT DURING 1974 A MAJOR TASK OF THE COMMISSION WOULD BE TO GET THE PROPOSED EC REGULATION ON MERGERS (SEE REFERENCED AIRGRAM) THROUGH THE EC COUNCIL. HE SAID THAT HE EXPECTED THE EUROPEAN PARLIMENT TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS MAKING AMENDMENTS WHICH WILL NOT ALTER THE BASIS OF THE PROPOSAL.

2. DUESBERG ALSO MENTIONED THAT THE COMMISSION IS PRESENTLY CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS OF IBM AND THE MAJOR OIL COMPANIES. BOTH INVESTIGATIONS ARE IN VERY CONFIDENTIAL

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EARLY STAGES. REGARDING THE OIL COMPANIES, DUESBERG

SAID THEY HAVE BEEN ACCUSED, BY ALLEGEDLY INJURED PARTIES,  
OF USING THE OIL CRISIS TO ELIMINATE INDEPENDENT OIL DEALERS,  
\* CHARGING DIFFERENT CUSTOMERS DIFFERENT PRICES AND  
OF ENGAGING IN OTHER PRACTICES IN  
VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 85 (ILLEGAL AGREEMENTS) AND 86  
(ABUSE OF DOMINANT POSITION) OF THE ROME TREATY.

3. EC COMMISSIONER ALBERT BORSCHETTE, AT  
A PRESS CONFERENCE A FEW WEEKS AGO, STATED THAT THE  
COMMISSION WAS IN THE PROCESS OF GATHERING INFORMATION  
ON IBM OPERATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES AS A PRELUDE TO  
FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS ON THEIR ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE.  
GREENWALD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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